

C1
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B1
a limiting circuit connected to the high potential power supply and the charge control circuit for limiting the voltage provided to the capacitor from the high potential power supply before the charge control circuit stops providing the voltage of the high potential power supply to the capacitor,

wherein the limiting circuit limits the voltage provided to the capacitor when the boosting of an output signal of the level shift circuit to a boosted voltage, which is higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply, is started.

36. (Amended) A level shift circuit comprising:

B2
a capacitor;

a first transistor connected to the capacitor for providing a voltage of a high potential power supply to the capacitor and controlling charging of the capacitor; and

a second transistor connected to the high potential power supply and the first transistor for being turned off before the first transistor is turned off when the boosting of an output signal of the level shift circuit to a boosted voltage, which is higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply, is started.

Please add claims 43-46 as follows:

-- 43. (New) A level shift circuit comprising:

B3
a capacitor;

a charge control circuit connected to the capacitor, for providing a high potential power supply to the capacitor and controlling charging of the capacitor; and

a limiting circuit connected to the high potential power supply and the charge control circuit, for limiting the voltage provided to the capacitor from the high potential

power supply before the charge control circuit stops providing the voltage of the high potential power supply to the capacitor,

wherein the limiting circuit limits the voltage provided to the capacitor when the charging of the capacitor to a boosted voltage, which is higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply, is started.

44. (New) A level shift circuit comprising:

a capacitor;

a first transistor connected to the capacitor, for providing a voltage of a high potential power supply to the capacitor, wherein the first transistor controls charging of the capacitor and is turned off after the capacitor is started charging to a boosted voltage being higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply; and

a second transistor connected to the high potential power supply and the first transistor, for being turned off simultaneously when the charging of the capacitor to the boosted voltage is started.

45. (New) A level shift circuit comprising:

a capacitor;

a charge control circuit connected to the capacitor, for providing a voltage of a high potential power supply to the capacitor and controlling charging of the capacitor; and

a limiting circuit connected to the high potential power supply and the charge control circuit, for limiting the voltage provided to the capacitor from the high potential power supply simultaneously when the boosting of an output signal of the level shift

circuit to a boosted voltage, which is higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply, is started.

46. (New) A level shift circuit comprising:

a capacitor;

a charge control circuit connected to the capacitor, for providing a voltage of a high potential power supply to the capacitor and controlling charging of the capacitor; and

a limiting circuit connected to the high potential power supply and the charge control circuit, for limiting the voltage provided to the capacitor from the high potential power supply simultaneously when the charging of the capacitor to a boosted voltage, which is higher than the voltage of the high potential power supply, is started. --

A marked-up copy of the amended claims is enclosed as required by 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.121.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 11, 2002 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 36 have been amended to more clearly particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Claims 43-46 are newly added. No new matter has been entered. Claims 11-35 continue to be withdrawn from further consideration. Accordingly, claims 1-10 and 36-46 are pending in this application and are submitted for consideration.

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-10 are allowed over the prior art.